

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 04, 2003***

SPECIAL TROPICAL DISTURBANCE STATEMENT

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Special Tropical Disturbance Statement (DSA) is a brief alphanumeric text product which the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) issue to inform customers on strong formative, non-depression systems. The product focuses on major threats of the disturbance such as the potential for torrential rains on islands or inland areas.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The DSA is event-driven which provides customers with timely and succinct information on the potential for severe weather primarily very heavy rainfall which could lead to flash flooding or river flooding.

3. Audience:

The target audience of the DSA includes national, state, and local emergency managers, military and civilian government agencies, media, and the general public.

4. Presentation Format:

The DSA is a brief alphanumeric narrative document in a block paragraph format.

5. Feedback Method:

The National Weather Service (NWS) is constantly seeking to improve its products based on user feedback. Customers can provide continuous feedback through e-mail links to the local program managers via the offices Internet web sites and via e-mail links to the program manager in the Marine and Coastal Weather Service Branch, National Weather Service Headquarters (NWSH). NHC, CPHC, and NWSH also obtain feedback through meetings with emergency managers and media personnel, outreach activities, and through customer surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the DSA may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Scott Kiser W/OS21
Hurricane Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway 13126
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285

or e-mail questions and comments to: Scott.Kiser@noaa.gov.

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

The DSA is a brief alphanumeric text product using a block paragraph format. CPHC and NHC base the information contained within the DSA on latest available data from all sources with special reliance on surface observations and satellite data.

2. **Availability:**

The DSA is an event-driven product. Customers can receive the product via the Internet, NOAAPORT, EMWIN, and NOAA Weather Wire. Additional information on Tropical Cyclone product dissemination is available at: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>.

The following Internet site is one location to access the DSA product:

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/pr/hnl/cphc/pages/cphc.shtml>.

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of policy governing the DSA is located in NWS Instruction 10-601. A copy of this policy is available via the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.